

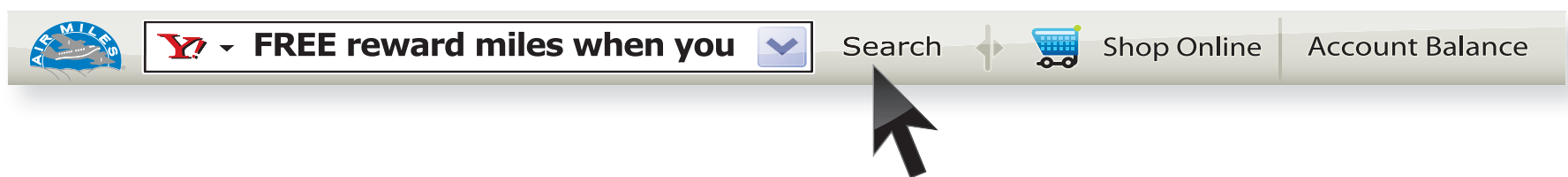
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Distance, time blamed for Harry's breakup

pg 24



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HALIFAX • THURSDAY JANUARY 29 2009

metronews

Weaving a new shoe trend



It's coach for jet-set officials

BUDGET If you can still afford to travel by air, keep an eye out for the federal Tory cabinet. They'll be the ones at the back of the plane.

In the face of global recession and huge national deficits, the government is eyeing cost savings that could cause turbulence in the jet-set lives of politicians, top bureaucrats and political appointees.

Measures in this week's budget bump cabinet ministers, political staff and senior civil servants from business-class seats on flights of less than two hours and freeze spending at 2008 levels for all travel, lunches and hospitality.

The government vowed to "rein in" departmental spending, but the limits could shock cabinet ministers accustomed to executive treatment. Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, for example, charged taxpayers

\$746.43 for a 45-minute flight from Ottawa to Montreal last October. It costs about half that to travel coach on Air Canada. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Food pg 17



Relax while cooking chili

Metro Homes pg 16

Repeating patterns

Entertainment pg 23

Halftimes to remember

Tories 'on probation'

Coalition collapses as Liberal leader gives support to Conservative budget

Canada 2009

Federal Budget

The Conservative government has accepted a Liberal change to the federal budget that requires periodic parliamentary reports on how its \$40-billion economic rescue package is being spent — a move that guarantees the budget's passage and the government's probable survival well into 2010.

With the Liberals' support of the Conservative budget, the would-be coalition with the New Democrats, backed by the Bloc Québécois, collapsed.

It was the latest twist in a political drama that erupted in November and led to the near-defeat of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's minority government.

The Conservatives earned a new lease on government — but only to implement a massive pro-growth spending plan dictated in part by their opposition adversaries and leaving the government with a \$64-billion deficit within two years.

The Liberal amendment calls for reports that would require three more mini-fiscal updates. The Conservative government quickly accepted the change, which means the budget could pass as early as Monday.

"We are putting this government on probation," Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff declared yesterday. "We will be watching like hawks to make sure that the investments Canadians need actually reach them."

The motion will require these report cards at the end of March, in June and again in December. Ignatieff said that if the reports reveal that the government is not delivering on its budget pledges, the Lib-



Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff speaks in Ottawa yesterday. Ignatieff said the Liberals will support the budget, ensuring the survival of Harper's minority government. **More, pgs 3, 7, 10 & 11**

erals will withdraw their support for the Tories in Parliament.

"There remains a problem of trust, there remains a sense that they announce and don't deliver, a sense that they promise and don't get the money out the door," said Ignatieff.

Explaining why the Liberals are backing what they called a "flawed"

budget, Ignatieff said Canadians want responsible political leadership in Ottawa — not political brinkmanship. He repeated his comment that the country needs an election now "like a hole in the head."

But he sought to dispel the notion that the Liberals were giving the Conservative budget a green

light, telling MPs it's "a flashing yellow light" and Harper should "proceed with extreme caution."

Earlier yesterday, Harper attended a tightly controlled photo opportunity at a home renovation worksite to highlight his proposed measure of tax credits to stimulate the construction industry. However, he did not for-

Conditions

- The Liberals want Tories to "provide on-going economic and fiscal updates; detail the actual implementation of the budget; and itemize the actual effects of the budget."
- The tests for approval: Protection of most vulnerable, minimizing of existing job losses, creation of employment opportunities of tomorrow, provision of economic stimulus in a manner fair to all regions, and assurance the deficit is not a burden to future generations or a detriment to economic recovery.
- The Conservatives must also provide details on adjustments or new measures.

mally speak to Parliament about his government's throne speech, budget or to the Liberal call for regular updates.

But senior government ministers cast the amendment as simply recognition of what the government already does — account to Canadians for how it spends their money. They stressed that the main thing is to get the money flowing.

Meanwhile, NDP Leader Jack Layton and BQ Leader Gilles Duceppe said the Liberals will wear the Conservatives' budget.

"The coalition is dead, very clearly," said Duceppe.

Layton lashed out at Ignatieff for using the "fig leaf" of an amendment to keep Harper in power.

"Stephen Harper is going to remain in office because Michael Ignatieff has decided to keep him there," said Layton, who accused Ignatieff of forming a new coalition with the Harper government.

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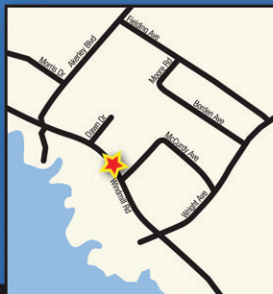
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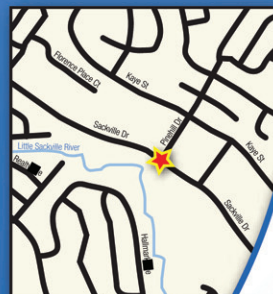
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Cheaper parking offered to help get cars off the street

HRM plans to offer \$15 monthly parking at the Bloomfield Centre this winter to help people get their cars off the street during the winter parking ban. The ban was reinstated this winter to help crews clear the streets during snowstorms. **METRO HALIFAX**

Local



Average pay up 1.8%

Nova Scotians made an average of \$692.73 a week in November 2008, a 1.8 per cent hike from what we were making the year before. Last year, Newfoundlanders pulled down \$752.99 a week, a four per cent hike; New Brunswickers made 2.9 per cent more, and Islanders got a 2.1 per cent weekly raise.

METRO HALIFAX

Province likely going in the red

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca



Nova Scotia's ever-dwindling chances of having a balanced budget for 2009 seem even more unlikely after Tuesday's federal budget.

Premier Rodney MacDonald said yesterday the province will face more pressure to go into the red to make the most of federal money. On Tuesday Ottawa pledged billions of dollars in stimulus cash, but the provinces will have to match spending to get much of that.

"We still have an uphill battle going with our budget," said MacDonald. "The infrastructure dollars are ex-

Canada 2009 Federal Budget

tremely important. One of the challenges we're going to have is matching those dollars."

MacDonald said he still had questions about how the funding will work, such as whether the matching dollars must come entirely from the province or could include private money.

MacDonald wouldn't confirm if his government would spend into deficit, but did say "we plan on leveraging every single dollar that we can leverage."

Nova Scotia will also see \$75 million less in equaliza-

tion money, but MacDonald insisted the feds will make up for that amount.

Because of the Atlantic Accord of 2005 and the subsequent changes to it, Nova Scotia has a unique and complex system of getting equalization money.

There's less money this time around — about \$75 million less for Nova Scotia. But MacDonald said Stephen Harper's government will make that up with a "transitional payment."

That stems from a November agreement between Ottawa and Nova Scotia and Manitoba wherein the provinces were protected from an equalization drop. MacDonald said operating revenue will not be affected.



Premier Rodney MacDonald answers questions about the federal budget at the Hilton Garden Inn in Enfield yesterday.

No students hurt in school bus accident

JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca



CRASH Fortunately, no children were hurt in a school bus accident on Peggy's Cove Road yesterday.

The school bus stopped and activated its lights at 2:20 p.m. to let students off. A pickup truck stopped behind it, but it appears the third vehicle in line didn't stop. The pickup truck was rear-ended, forcing the truck into the bus.

There were six students — between five and six years old — on the bus at the time, as well as the driver. They were all examined by paramedics at the scene, but no injuries were reported. RCMP officers are investigating.

2008 an airport record-breaker, but expect slump in '09



John Richardson picks up his luggage at the Halifax airport yesterday.

RACHEL BOOMER
rachel.boomer@metronews.ca



ECONOMY Last year was a record-breaker for traffic at Halifax's Stanfield International Airport, but don't expect 2009 to top it.

The airport authority expects that because of the slumping economy, passenger numbers will drop 2.1 per cent in 2009 from its all-time record of 3.58

million in 2008. That means about 75,000 fewer passengers — largely international ones.

But spokesman Peter Spurway said it's likely the airport will still break even, even with passenger numbers going down, because of increased revenues from a \$5 hike in airport improvement fees in March and the new airport parking garage, slated to open this spring.

"Obviously, we'd like to go up three or four per cent. But if that doesn't happen, it won't predicate a loss in 2009," Spurway said.

"We have a history of recovering faster than other airports — after 9-11, after Canada 3000 went under."

He said the airport's first two quarters of 2008 were very strong, but when things started to slump in midsummer, staff cut back

on discretionary spending to ensure it could keep the budget balanced.

He said the airport is aggressively marketing itself to airlines in the hopes that Parliament will sign off on a European blueskies agreement sometime this year. That would allow airlines that currently stop in Halifax simply to refuel on their way somewhere else, to drop off and pick up passengers here.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Jack Layton blasts Michael Ignatieff for allowing the budget to pass at metronews.ca/canada
Blogs Political Stripes on the impact of the opposition coalition on this week's budget at metronews.ca



Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 1, 6, 20, 22, 24 & 46. Bonus 36.
These results are not official.

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Saint John, N.B., orthopedic surgeon Dr. John Steeves has been made head of Dalhousie's New Brunswick medical program, which opens in 2010. The school will be based at UNB Saint John, but med students will rotate throughout hospitals in Fredericton, Moncton and Miramichi. **METRO HALIFAX**

Domestic diva gives Halifax artist big break

JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Martha Stewart will host a Haligonian artist on an upcoming show.

Michelle SaintOnge was invited to demonstrate some of her silkscreening skills during a live taping in New York on Feb. 11.

"I was ridiculously thrilled," SaintOnge said. "It's like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to get the word out there that I'm doing this. Many people don't ever get that chance."

When asked if she'll talk up Nova Scotia like actress Ellen Page did on David Letterman's show, SaintOnge said, "Hell, yes!"

SaintOnge submitted a

"Just after Christmas, the producer said she really liked my last proposal and she was going to pitch it to Martha (Stewart). The very next day, I was booked."

Michelle SaintOnge

proposal to a producer of the Martha Stewart show soon after launching a handbag line in the fall.

"Just after Christmas, the producer said she really liked my last proposal and she was going to pitch it to Martha. The very next day, I was booked."

SaintOnge calls Stewart the "matriarch of the do-it-yourself movement."

"She's pretty important to everything I've been doing the last little while."

Since she has to pay her way to New York, SaintOnge's friends have pitched in and are holding a raffle to raise money for the airfare.

Once she's at the NBC studios, SaintOnge will be teaching Stewart and her television audience how to make their own silkscreen frames from household materials, like an old picture frame or curtain sheers.

"Then we're going to do a project based on my artwork."

Viewers will be able to download a stencil SaintOnge designed, then use their homemade frames to print it onto a tote bag or T-shirt.

SaintOnge, who took animal behaviour psychology at Dalhousie University, said she focuses on animals for the majority of her designs.

"I find inspiration in animals," she said.

"I find them really funny and as far as subject matter, they're more entertaining than flowers."

Online action

- Tutorial blog: www.print-cutsew.com
- Website: www.michelle-saintonge.com



Halifax artist Michelle SaintOnge will appear on the Martha Stewart Show on Feb. 11.

Culture The pipes of Erin



Glen Coolen demonstrates the Irish bagpipes during a lecture series called the Irish Musical Tradition at the Spring Garden Library yesterday. The Irish pipes are more challenging to play and quieter than the Highland bagpipes.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

Building a downtown office seems like a great idea — unless no one wants to move in to it.

There isn't enough demand for downtown business space for it to compete with the suburbs, according to a survey by real-estate consultants Turner Drake & Partners.

"The rental rates just aren't high enough to support development in the downtown area," said firm spokeswoman Alexandra

Baird Allen.

"Whereas with land values in suburban areas are so much cheaper."

Despite all the talk of downtown developments, there hasn't been a new office building built since Summit Place in the 1980s. Baird Allen believes part of the reason is the higher land and construction costs compared to the suburbs.

Downtown may seem like plum real estate, but offices there cost only 14 per cent more than the suburbs. Class A office space in Burnside costs an average of \$15.88 per square foot per year. Down-

"Land values in suburban areas are so much cheaper."

Alexandra Baird Allen

town that number is \$18.07.

"There is demand for office space in the downtown area, but we don't really see that it's yet economically feasible to construct new buildings," said Baird Allen.

One developer planning a downtown office is hedging his bets. Franklyn Medjuk wants to build a 20-story office building on Barrington Street above where the Dis-

covery Centre is now.

But he's got a plan B just in case.

"By the time you go through the process and appeal periods, the market could be very different," said Medjuk.

"We applied for an option, so if Turner Drake are right, we have the option to switch to an apartment building."

Medjuk building would be the same height regardless of whether it ends up for offices or apartments. But it gives Medjuk an insurance policy if a bunch of downtown developments get built at the same time, sapping demand.

Synchro skating will slide into Halifax

COMPETITION It's like synchronized swimming — just on ice.

Halifax plays host to the Eastern Regional Festival of Synchronized Skating this weekend.

Teams as large as 16 skaters perform routines to music. More than 600 skaters from the Atlantic provinces and Quebec will compete in the Eastern tournament, which decides who goes on to the national competition.

Longtime figure skater Lindsey Parker, 18, a rookie at synchro skating, isn't afraid to admit she's nervous.

"This is our first time go-

Festival

- The Eastern Regional Festival of Synchronized Skating starts Saturday and wraps up on Sunday at the Metro Centre.
- Admission is free, but donations to Feed Nova Scotia will be accepted.

ing out and doing it in front of people," she said.

"I'm just hoping everything goes smoothly. With our first competition, I'm not concerned with placing, I'm just hoping to do our best."

There are 10 girls on her team, the Riverview

Eclipse. They practise on a rink in Brooklyn, near Windsor.

"Synchro is a lot of fun because you have that bond with your team members," said Parker.

"It's not as nerve-wracking when you go out by yourself on the ice where there's a million people staring at just you."

Synchronized skating might sound a little obscure, but there are efforts to make it an introductory sport in the 2010 Olympics.

"They move really fast and do intricate turns, and they're required to do certain moves in each of their programs like a wheel and a

circle," said Ann Young, a volunteer at the event. "The senior competitive teams do lifts, and it involves two or three girls lifting another girl up over their heads and skating down the ice at the same time."

It's the first time Halifax has hosted this competition. It will also be the last tournament under this name. Skate Canada has changed the qualifying rules, making the regional competition a little different next year.

"It's a huge spectator sport," said Young. "It's exciting and fun, and it has costumes and music."

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

NEW HIRE Andy Fillmore is the new manager of the sustainable environment management office for HRM. Fillmore has been instrumental in guiding the HRM by Design initiative in his current role as urban design project manager. Paul Dunphy, director of community development, said there will be a four-month transition period where Fillmore will continue to lead HRM by Design to ensure the project reaches its completion.

INTERNET A trip to Halifax is no longer necessary for anyone else interested in the outcome of the Feb. 2 Nova Scotia Court of Appeal hearing involving the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and the attorney general of Nova Scotia. The appeal of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court decision that dismissed the CBRM's legal case, which accused the province of underfunding the municipality, will be broadcast live over the Internet.

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The first step to a healthy weight loss

Part 8

Your Liver, Your Friend...

The liver is the most voluminous organ in the human body, weighing 1,500 grams on average. Its very size suggests the importance of the roles and FUNCTIONS performed by the liver.

The liver is located below the diaphragm, with its largest part on the right-hand side. When people say their liver hurts and touch their left side..., this is actually a "Dr. Watson error".

Functions of the liver:

From an earlier item in this series entitled "How Well Do You Know Your Organs of Elimination?", you may recall what I said about the liver, i.e., that it is the "laboratory" of the human body.

Here are the reasons for this:

The liver performs hundreds of functions, which can be grouped into three large categories, namely, purification, synthesizing and storage.

The liver cleanses the blood:


The liver carries out most of its exchanges with the rest of the body through its double blood supply (portal vein and hepatic arteries), which terminates in numerous capillaries that go inside the liver. Thanks to this system, the liver is able to neutralize and destroy toxic substances. It also ensures that drugs, alcohol and chemical products are metabolized.

The liver's synthesizing function:

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6 local

African Heritage Month festivities held tomorrow night
Celebrate African Heritage Month tomorrow night at the George Dixon Centre. Black Cultural Centre head Dr. Henry Bishop will speak. **METRO HALIFAX**



Cole Harbour Red Wings Atom AA players watch third-period action as their team takes on the Halifax Hawks at the St. Margaret's Centre in Upper Tantallon in this file photo. HRM council has approved the construction of a four-rink arena in Bedford which should help alleviate the chronic shortage of available ice in metro.

HRM gets clean ice

\$30M four-rink arena to be built in Bedford

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

Rink rats celebrated plans to build a \$30-million four-rink arena in Bedford yesterday.

Regional council voted unanimously Tuesday night to construct the new facility on the Hammonds Plains Road, near the intersection with Highway 102.

Todd Watson, president of the Bedford and District Minor Hockey Association and father of two hockey players, said it would be a "tremendous asset" to the area.

"It's long overdue for the Bedford community," Watson said yesterday.

"We are one association in desperate need of ice, and I know there are others."

One of his sons plays bantam, and the other plays for Lockview High

"It's long overdue for the Bedford community. We are one association in desperate need of ice, and I know there are others."

Todd Watson

School in Fall River. His eldest son's team currently calls the Dartmouth Sportplex home.

"That tells you the travel that's incurred by the parents and kids because there's just no ice to be had," Watson said. The current shortage of ice time sees kids practising at 6 a.m. before heading off to school, and has teams lining up at 10 p.m.

He sounded a note of caution, though. "We have to question what facilities the city will be closing."

Bedford Coun. Tim Outhit said HRM isn't planning to close any rinks. He was reached on his cellphone at the LeBrun Rink: Built in 1974, it's the most

recent ice project in the area.

Outhit said they picked the location because it's a fast-growing area near Clayton Park and right by a major highway.

"It's exciting," he said. "There definitely was a crunch for ice space."

He added the city hopes to eventually build another four-rink facility in the Dartmouth/Fall River area.

HRM staff will start negotiations with the winning proponent to set the parameters for the design, build and operation phases of the project.

Construction is slated to begin in the spring with completion targeted for fall next year.

Telemarketers strike sex show visitors

JENNIFER TAPLIN
jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Some of the 10,000 people who took in the Everything to Do With Sex show in Halifax last weekend got a little more than they expected.

"We got people phoning us to complain they were receiving calls from telemarketers that they won a prize," said Joel Levitt, president of SX Marketing Inc., the company that produced the show.

There were two travel companies collecting ballots at the show for a free trip. Levitt said both com-

"We can't prove it was these companies, but people are calling who said they filled out ballots at the show."

Joel Levitt

panies have denied anything to do with the phone calls. In some cases, people were asked to put down a deposit, pay for extras or sold an upgraded trip.

The companies claim they're legit, but Levitt said his company has cancelled its contracts for the last show on the tour: Montreal in February.

One of the companies was at a previous show to Halifax under a different name, Levitt added.

The show producers sent out a warning over Facebook about the phone calls and advised people to be aware of providing their credit card information.

"We can't prove it was these companies, but people are calling who said they filled out ballots at the show, so I can draw my own conclusions," Levitt said. "We've made a corporate decision there will no longer be ballots or draws at the show of any kind."

Second coast guard icebreaker gets stuck in ice

After 15 ice-bound hours, 38 passengers on a ferry from Îles de la Madeleine to P.E.I. have landed safely, CBC News Online reports. The coast guard icebreaker Sir William Alexander freed the ferry, but not after first getting stuck in the heavy ice itself. This is the second time in as many days that a coast guard icebreaker has been stuck in ice. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

7

Canada



Groups urge less birth intervention

Medical interventions like caesarian deliveries shouldn't be routine for low-risk pregnancies, several Canadian medical groups said in a new policy statement yesterday. The statement called for the promotion of normal childbirth when labour and birth are progressing normally. The statement urged doctors to resort to caesarean sections, among other interventions, only when there is a valid, evidence-based reason. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

The coalition is dead

Duceppe pulls plug on Liberal-NDP deal

A controversial political figure — remembered for its “extraordinary work” — has died.

Shed a tear for the NDP-Liberal coalition.

This rare political animal, born in a splash of controversy and daring died a quiet, merciful death yesterday, put down by one of its creators, who figured it had outlived its usefulness.

The death was greeted with a mix of mourning and indifference on Parliament Hill, the very place where it entered the world in a surprise birth just a month and a half ago.

The coalition is survived by warring siblings and is predeceased by Stéphane Dion, one of its founders.

Liberal Leader Michael Ig-

“I come out of this experience with the sense that we have changed Canadian politics.”

Michael Ignatieff

natieff, never a fan of the coalition he inherited from Dion, was first to hint at its fate yesterday when he delivered a kind eulogy without pronouncing the union formally deceased.

“The coalition has accomplished, I think, extraordinary work. It has forced a reckless ... prime minister to think again, to jettison the partisan my-way-or-the-highway style of leadership,” Ignatieff said.

“I come out of this experience with the sense that we have changed Canadian politics,” he said.

It was left to Bloc Quebecois Gilles Duceppe to fill in the death certificate.

“The coalition is dead. It’s finished. It’s over,” Duceppe declared bluntly.

Only NDP Leader Jack Layton betrayed any anger or bitterness yesterday, blaming Ignatieff for not following through on the coalition’s grand strategy to replace the Conservatives.

“We have a new coalition now on Parliament Hill. It’s a coalition between Mr. Harper and Mr. Ignatieff,” Layton said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Obama’s first visit set for Feb. 19

OTTAWA Fresh off the pomp and ceremony of his inauguration, U.S. President Barack Obama’s Feb. 19 visit to Canada promises to be a more low-key affair.

Canadians are trying to keep the focus for Obama’s meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper on work, not ceremony.

While the visit was previously announced, the date was confirmed yesterday by Washington and Ottawa. It will be Obama’s first trip abroad as president.



Barack Obama

“This is a testament not just to the size of our trading relationship and the closeness of our alliance, but also the strength of our friendship,” Harper said.

Obama’s office provided few details, but said the focus will likely be the sagging economy.

“Without getting into what a bilateral agenda might be for that trip, I think it is safe to say that the health of each economy and the health of the global economy will be a large part of that agenda,” White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said in Washington. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Budget **Getting to work**



Prime Minister Stephen Harper uses a nail gun while touring a home undergoing renovations yesterday in Ottawa. Harper attended the photo opportunity after the Tory budget, released Tuesday, announced tax breaks for home renovation projects.

CHRIS WATTE/REUTERS

Premiers have mixed reaction

PROVINCES Hailing Stephen Harper as the “Prime Minister who actually delivered,” Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty said the federal budget is just the tonic for the province’s ailing economy, but leaders elsewhere in the country greeted the federal budget with less enthusiasm.

Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams called on the seven opposition MPs from

Canada 2009
Federal Budget

his province to make a symbolic stand and vote against the budget, saying it will cost the province \$1.5 billion over the next three years, when it had expected to receive \$2.7 billion in Atlantic Accord payments.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

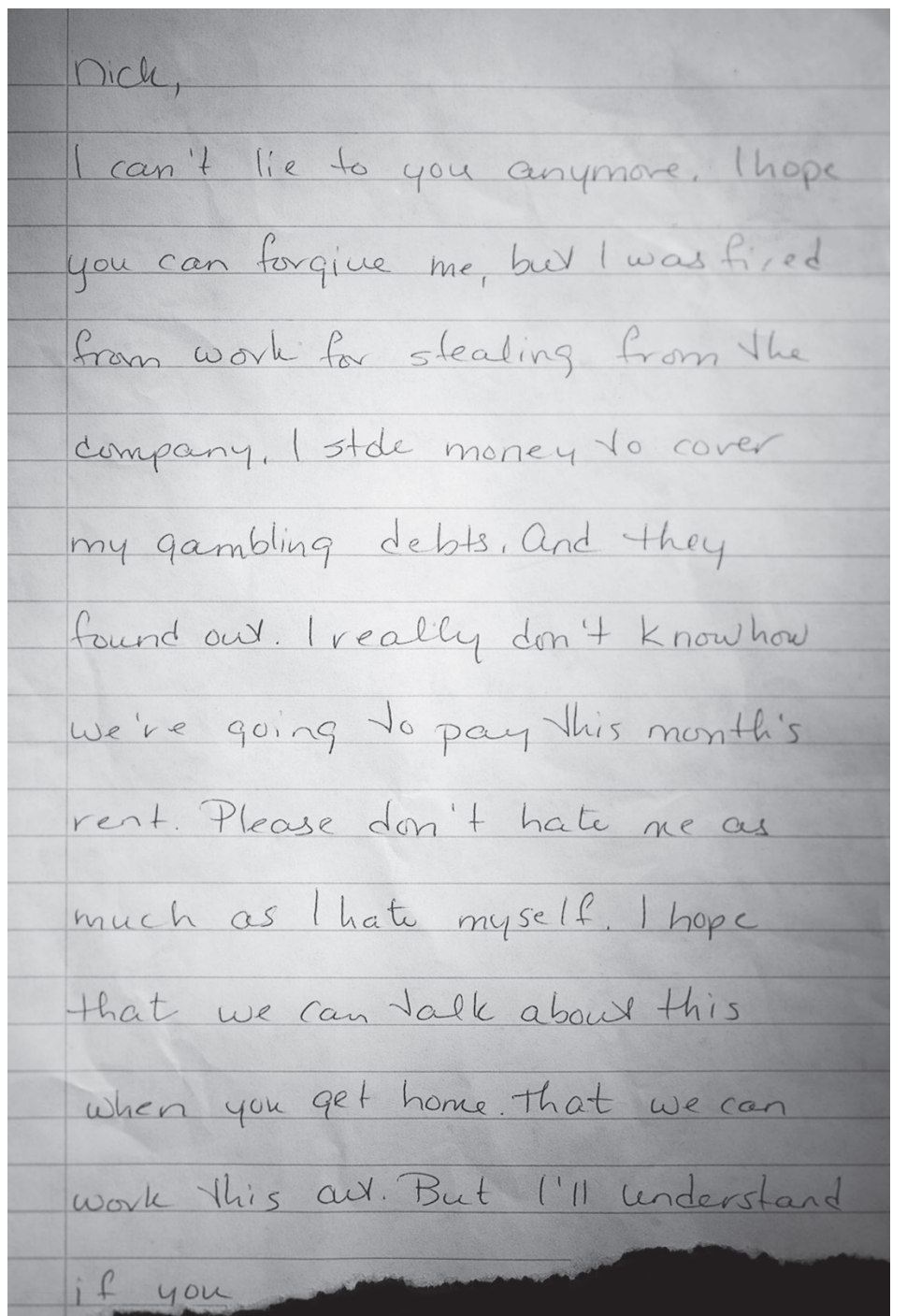
News in brief

SURVEY A recent opinion survey on professions reveals that more people would choose to marry a plumber than a movie star. Synovate surveyed 1,000 Canadians and found that 15 per cent would choose a doctor or a nurse as a spouse, nine per

cent would choose a worker from the sciences or trades people, while only four per cent would choose to marry an actor.

BIRD FLU The number of farms under quarantine in B.C.’s Fraser Valley is up to 26 because of con-

cerns over avian flu, as farmers raise their own concerns that compensation for destroyed birds will fall far short of their losses. Two more farms outside of the three-kilometre quarantine zone have been cordoned off. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



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and Protection

Venice is launching an online service that lets visitors pay for access to public toilets with a mouse click. Instead of paying the current one-euro fee to get into a public bathroom, tourists who think ahead can get one week or day passes to the bathrooms online. Visitors can pay seven euros online for 10 toilet visits over five days in high season, and five euros in the low tourist season. **REUTERS**

World



More G8 cash for arms disposal: Russia

Russia said yesterday it might have to slow down destruction of its huge Soviet-era stocks of chemical and other weapons of mass destruction because its G8 partners are not providing enough funds to carry out the work. The Group of Eight industrialized nations clinched a \$20-billion US deal in 2002 to help Russia get rid of chemical, nuclear and other weapons to prevent them falling into the wrong hands. **REUTERS**

Russian army orders soldier home from Georgia

TBILISI The Russian army accused Georgia yesterday of blocking the return of a soldier who disappeared from his unit and said he must come back or face prosecution as a deserter. "Alexander Glukhov must return and continue

his service," said Col. Igor Konashenkov, aide to the commander of Russia's ground forces.

Georgia, crushed by Russia in a brief war in August, paraded the soldier on Tuesday. Glukhov told Reuters said he had asked

for asylum, saying conditions with Russian forces were unbearable.

Moscow maintains the soldier was abducted and that Georgia forced him into making statements that discredited the Russian military. **REUTERS**

Obama wins bailout approval from House

U.S. President Barack Obama scored his first major legislative victory yesterday with passage of an \$819-billion US economic stimulus package by a sharply divided House on a 244-188 vote.

Obama, who took office eight days ago, was denied, at least for now, his goal of bipartisanship. Every Republican who voted opposed the landmark bill, complaining it contained

Extra spending

- The new spending in the Democrat-approved package includes money to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, and upgrade health care and schools.

too much new spending and not enough tax cuts.

All but 11 of Obama's fellow Democrats in the House supported the bill to

combat the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The Senate begins debate next week.

On his first visit to the Capitol as president Tuesday, Obama failed to ease Republican concerns the package included too little in tax cuts, \$275 billion, and too much in spending, \$550 billion. The Senate is expected to approve a similar version of the bill costing \$887 billion. **REUTERS**

Brazil Deforestation protest



A Brazilian Indian is shown at a protest against Amazon deforestation at the ninth Social World Forum, which was brought to the city of Belem partly as a way of drawing global attention to the destruction of the Amazon rain forest.

Violence continues on Gaza Strip

GAZA Israel bombed a weapons production facility in Gaza yesterday after militants fired a rocket at Israel, defying efforts of a visiting U.S. envoy to reinforce a ceasefire.

There were no reports of injuries from the predawn Israeli strike in the town of Rafah. Moments earlier, a militant group with links to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas Fatah movement claimed responsibility for firing a rocket at southern Israel late yesterday.

The rocket was the first fired from Gaza since Israel and Hamas called separate ceasefires ending a 22-day Israeli offensive on Jan. 18. It caused no casualties, but Israeli leaders have vowed to respond to rocket salvos its offensive in Gaza had aimed to curtail. **REUTERS**

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Who is this prime minister?

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen



Canada & world insight

Ralph Waldo Emerson famously said that “a foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds.” Emerson, the 19th-century American philosopher, thought the better part of wisdom is one’s willingness to abandon flawed, mistaken or dated beliefs.

By this measure, Stephen Harper is Emerson’s man. He’s happy to divest himself of anything. There appears to be nothing — no program, no promise — that he will not jettison if it becomes cumbersome or inconvenient.

If that means remaking yourself ideologically, or becoming a political chameleon, so be it. No one can accuse Harper of much attachment to anything.

The federal budget is the

latest in a string of staggering reversals. Only weeks ago, Harper declared that our economy was strong and there was no need for stimulus. And there would be no deficit.

Well, one could say that things changed between now and then. What changed was the government found Keynesian economics when it was faced with defeat. Period.

That this deficit comes from a Conservative government led by a conservative economist who once disdained deficits is exquisite. It shows, once again, that politicians, whatever their stripe, will choose survival over principle.

Power has not corrupted the Conservatives absolutely, as Lord Acton once said. Rather, it has bankrupted them intellectually. After a decade of “uniting the right” and plot-

Canada 2009

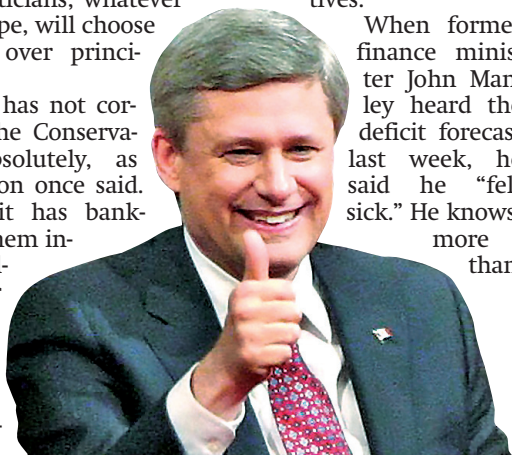
Federal Budget

ting a Canadian Conservative majority, they take office and embrace deficit financing and gargantuan spending.

Breathtaking.

Some might say the Conservatives have become Liberals today, but don’t be so sure the Liberals would have been this profligate. It was they who eliminated the deficit inherited from Brian Mulroney’s Conservatives.

When former finance minister John Manley heard the deficit forecast last week, he said he “felt sick.” He knows, more than



most, the pain it took to produce a surplus in the 1990s.

Then again, a government invites a deficit when it cuts the GST and income taxes (which this government did), so it can shrink the size of government (which this government wants), so it can create a Conservative Canada. Or so it thought.

When you want to stay in power, you learn how to trim and tack. Harper is becoming good at this.

Need a new mandate? Forget the election date you fixed and call one now. Want a Conservative majority in the Senate? Forget term limits for senators.

Want to appoint a new high court justice? Forget those pesky parliamentary hearings. Dislike income trusts? Abolish them.

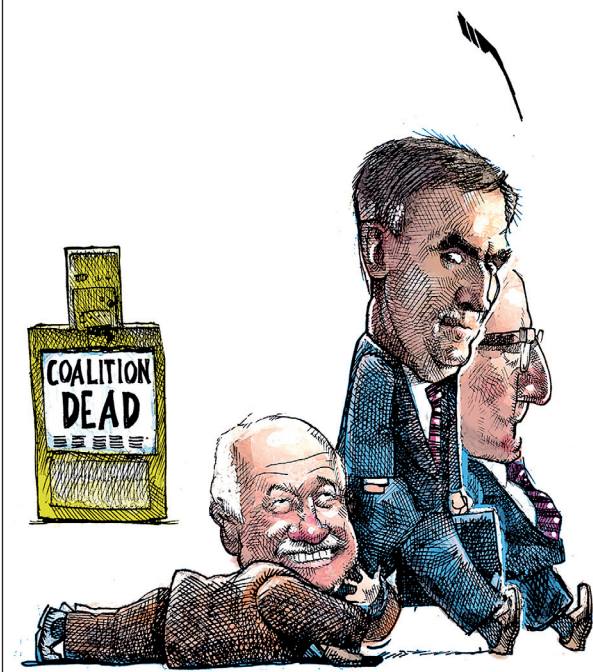
Want to placate the opposition? Drop plans to kill election subsidies.

Easy come, easy go. My, my, these are faithless folks.

Andrew Cohen, a professor and journalist, is the author of *Extraordinary Canadians*: Lester B. Pearson.

After metro

HE'S PERSISTENT.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Quote of the Day

“We have a new coalition now on Parliament Hill. It’s a coalition between Mr. Harper and Mr. Ignatieff.”

— NDP Leader Jack Layton on learning of Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff’s comments

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Views

Budget missed the boat to help ACTRA

Canada 2009

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Stephen Waddell

ACTRA

If Tuesday’s federal budget was an attempt by the Conservatives to apologize to Canada’s culture community for the devastating cuts of the last year, they missed a major cue. Canada’s \$5-billion film and TV industry is a proven job generator and gives government a lot of bang for every dollar invested. By not making a significant investment in this industry, Conservatives passed on an opportunity to create thousands of well-paying, cre-

ative, skilled jobs and, in turn, stimulate Canadian economic growth.

A healthy cultural industry is in everybody’s interest — culture not only enriches our lives, it enriches our economy. More people work in culture than work in agriculture, forestry, mining, oil and gas — combined.

Our cultural industries already contribute more than \$85 billion — or 7.4 per cent of Canada’s real gross domestic product — and more than 1.1 million jobs. ACTRA had presented a number of concrete job-creation ideas in the pre-budget process; unfortunately, the government didn’t include any of them in yesterday’s budget.

These practical solutions would have fuelled Cana-

“Simply put, Canadian performers are surprised the government is passing on such a no-brainer.”

da’s \$5-billion film and TV industry and added to the more than 125,000 full-time jobs our industry creates across Canada:

- Increased long-term funding for the Canadian Television Fund, Telefilm Canada, the CBC and the National Film Board;
- A new fund for new media productions that would come from a levy on the revenues of Internet service providers;
- Increased tax credits to encourage film and TV pro-

duction across the country.

We also pitched the idea of re-introducing “income averaging” for tax purposes over a five-year period to provide fair and equitable tax treatment for self-employed Canadians, such as performers. We’re pleased to see renewed commitments to the Canadian television fund and new media fund. However, this is basically a status quo budget for our industry and a missed opportunity to use the job-creating power of our industry to its full potential.

Simply put, Canadian performers are surprised the government is passing on such a no-brainer.

Stephen Waddell is National Executive Director of ACTRA, the national association representing over 21,000 professional performers.

Letters

Stats don’t support the reality of costs stadiums would bring

In Fred MacGillivray’s feasibility study for the 2010 Commonwealth games they told Fred (and Mayor Kelly) that a 25,000 seat stadium, even with a CFL franchise, would be a financial burden of the homeowners of Halifax. Recent age stats from Ottawa tells us that Nova Scotia and HRM have the highest proportion of people over 50 years old, hardly a demographic showing support for this type of deal. Yet, Mayor Kelly still seems

hell bent on putting the city’s homeowners’ in debt with this economic nightmare. On page 6 of this study, you will see that HRM is after the 2018 FIFA World Cup games. Recently, Mayor Kelly said he was looking for \$65 million for a stadium. Its the same underestimating game as they played with the Commonwealth games. Perhaps this time some of our MPs, MLAs and members of city council will refuse to be muzzled and will speak out in favour of reality.

BRUCE DEVENNE, LOWER SACKVILLE

Metro Online Poll Results

44% SAID YES

If you were an MP, would you vote in favour of the budget?

56% SAID NO

Weigh in on today’s question at metronews.ca

It’s your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender’s full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Toyota recalls Yaris

Toyota is recalling 58,000 of its 2006 and 2007 Yaris subcompact models sold in Canada because of a seatbelt defect. A seatbelt could cause a foam pad in the car to catch fire if the vehicle is involved in a severe front-end collision. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

The DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

MedMira outsourcing:

MedMira Inc. will outsource basic components and product assembly of its rapid diagnostic kits to strategic partner Shenzhen Kang Sheng Bao Bio-Technology Co., Ltd. Kang Sheng Bao.

CIBC picks Marine Atlantic:

CIBC Mellon Global Securities Services has picked Marine Atlantic Inc. to provide custody, accounting and administrative services for the company's \$520-million pension fund.

Black Bull slows down:

Black Bull Resources Inc. will implement a reduced operations business plan for 2009, which will reduce operations to care and maintenance "until mineral markets improve or significant purchase order(s) are received that justify re-commencing processing operations."

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GDP forecasts too high, IMF says

ECONOMY The International Monetary Fund says Canada's economic recovery will be far less vigorous than the federal government and the central bank are predicting.

The world body yesterday forecasted the economy will grow by 1.6 per cent in 2010, after contracting by 1.2 per cent this year — much lower than the fed's 2.4 per cent growth forecast, and the central bank's prediction for 3.8 per cent growth.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In brief

ENVIRONMENT Despite the recession, sales of organic items haven't fallen. The global market for organic food and beverages was worth \$22.75 billion in 2007, after more than doubling in five years.

EARNINGS Boeing Co. reported a fourth-quarter loss of \$56 million US, compared with a year-earlier profit of \$1.03 billion US, due a strike. **REUTERS**

Credit plan skimpy: Critics

The federal government's clumsy attempt to regulate credit card lending through "skimpy" measures in the budget will do little to beef up consumer protections, critics charged yesterday.

Earlier this week, Conservative Finance Minister Jim Flaherty outlined a handful of proposals to better assist consumers in making "informed decisions" when using credit. But various politicians and some members of the business community say his plan lacks teeth.

Liberal Senator Pierrette Ringuette called Flaherty's proposals an "insult," arguing he should have introduced rules to shield consumers and businesses from rising interest rates and fees. She raised those

"Consumers need to pay less interest rates to sustain their purchasing power."

Pierrette Ringuette

concerns with Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, but also urged the Senate yesterday to investigate the industry.

"Given the current state of our economy, consumers need to pay less interest rates to sustain their purchasing power," Ringuette told senators.

Flaherty's proposals include a new task force on financial literacy, while "strengthening disclosure requirements" on banks that issue credit cards. That

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involves simplifying the language on documents, while providing "clear and timely advance notice" of rate and fee changes.

Additionally, the government promised to limit "business practices that are not beneficial to consumers," without naming specifics. That could include minimum grace periods on new purchases and changes to debt collection.

MP Dan McTeague, the Liberal Consumer Affairs critic, wants a cap on rates set at 12 per cent above the banks' prime rate. The NDP want it set at five per cent above prime.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Virgin High-stakes ad contest



Richard Branson, founder of the Virgin group of companies, waves to the crowd during an Advertising Week event in Toronto. He was in the city to award eight students a \$100,000 prize for a contest to create a Virgin ad package.

TONY LOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Sports



"Anybody that says we should blow up this organization should get their own bomb and go blow themselves up."

Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk, left, during a press conference yesterday, discussing the Sens' subpar season and decline in season-ticket sales. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

NHL Henrik Zetterberg has been signed to the longest contract in Red Wings' history, a 12-year deal that will keep the star forward in Detroit until 2021. The deal is worth slightly more than \$72 million US. Zetterberg, 28, is in his sixth NHL season, all with Detroit. The Swedish native has 43 points in 45 games.

NBA Charlotte Bobcats forward Gerald Wallace suffered a partially collapsed left lung and a fractured rib late in the team's double-overtime victory over the L.A. Lakers on Tuesday. Wallace was to remain in the hospital for observation and did not accompany the team to Portland for last night's game.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Got big-game fever? Check out Laurence Heinen's all things-Super Bowl blog, online now at www.metronews.ca/blogs

Big Ben and the grocery bagger

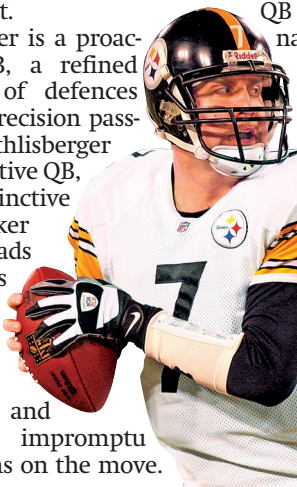
MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca



To compare Kurt Warner and Ben Roethlisberger as quarterbacks would be tantamount to, say, comparing Michael Bublé and Kanye West as singers.

Their styles are drastically different.

Warner is a proactive QB, a refined reader of defences and a precision passer. Roethlisberger is a reactive QB, an instinctive playmaker who reads defences more effectively after snaps and makes impromptu decisions on the move.



"They're like night and day," former NFL-QB-turned-analyst Terry Bradshaw mentioned. "They do nothing the same — except lead their teams to victories." On Sunday in Tampa Bay, Warner and Roethlisberger will attempt to lead their teams to a Super Bowl victory. Warner, 37, is the QB of the Arizona Cardinals. Roethlisberger, 26, is the Pittsburgh Steelers' QB.

One of the two will garner the second Super Bowl ring of his career. And they'll both likely wind up as Hall of Famers.

And, yet, neither was a shoo-in to even play QB in the NFL,

NFL

Super Bowl XLIII

let alone be in the Super Bowl and Hall of Fame. Perseverance, though, is what has made both their stories remarkable.

Warner, who could become the first QB in history to lead two different franchises to an NFL title, was a training-camp cut by the Green Bay Packers in 1994 before finding jobs in the real world, including one in which he stocked shelves and bagged groceries.

Eventually, he was signed by the Arena Football League and, by 1999, the injury-plagued St. Louis Rams were desperate for a QB and recruited him. He responded by guiding the Rams to a Super Bowl tri-

umph and by capturing the first of his two NFL MVP awards.

While Warner always got to play QB, however, Roethlisberger didn't. At high school in Ohio, Roethlisberger was a receiver until his senior year. The team's coach preferred his son at QB.

And there were obstacles for both Big Ben and Warner during their NFL careers, too.

In June, 2006,

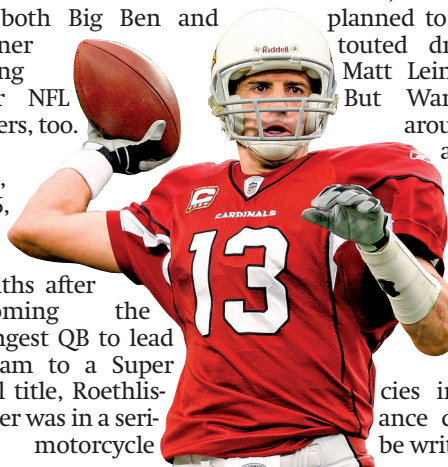
months after becoming the youngest QB to lead a team to a Super Bowl title, Roethlisberger was in a serious motorcycle

crash — minus a helmet.

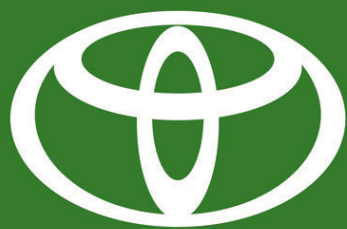
The damage: a nine-inch head laceration, a broken jaw, a fractured nose and lost teeth. He required seven hours of surgery, and doctors feared he might not be able to play again. Roethlisberger bounced back, though, undaunted.

Warner nearly retired before 2007, when the Cards planned to use highly touted draft choice Matt Leinart at QB. But Warner stuck around, despite adversity.

And, as they prepare this week for the 43rd Super Bowl, their legacies in perseverance continue to be written.



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Acadia Axe Dal in hockey

The Dalhousie Tigers lost a heartbreaker in Atlantic University Sport men's hockey action last night, falling 2-1 in overtime to the Acadia Axemen in Wolfville. Derek Lewis fired home the winner 2:01 into extra time. Jeff MacGregor had the lone goal for the last-place Tigers, who fell to 4-16-1. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Fox steps up as Acadia stuns Huskies

MATTHEW WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Casey Fox is supposed to be the uncertain freshman slowly finding his way with the rebuilding Acadia Axemen.

The Halifax native is not supposed to be scoring 27 points, calmly sinking contested three-pointers with the game on the line, and leading the Axemen to an 87-80 upset victory over the Saint Mary's Huskies — especially not at The Tower.

But he did just that last night, with his dad, Huskies legend Mickey Fox, looking on from a baseline seat.

Fox has been thrust into a prominent role with the Axemen, who have been forced to retool and bear little resemblance to the team that upset the five-time defending champion Carleton Ravens in last year's national semifinals.

"It's a good opportunity," said Fox, who drained 30 points in an overtime loss to the Huskies last week. "I love to be the

man, and it's me, Peter Leighton and Justin Boutilier taking a lot of the shots right now. It's exciting and a lot of fun."

Gone from last year's Axemen is head coach Les Berry, who resigned and was replaced by Steve Baur. On the court, they've lost reigning MVP Leonel Saintil, as well as stars Paulo Santana, Achuil Lu-

"It's a good opportunity ... I love to be the man, and it's me, Peter Leighton and Justin Boutilier taking a lot of the shots right now. It's exciting and a lot of fun."

Casey Fox

al, Shawn Berry and Andrew Kraus.

Fox, a 6-foot-3 guard who is averaging 21.6 points per game in his past five outings, overshadowed Huskies stars Joey Haywood (28 points)

and Mark McLaughlin (27 points) last night, and has looked like a seasoned veteran lately.

"We've got a couple of new plays that are run for our three man, and right now, I'm playing the three," said Fox, who leads Atlantic University Sport in three-point makes.

"It's worked in my favour, and I've been getting a lot of shots up."

The Axemen, 5-9 overall, had lost six of their past seven games before knocking off the Huskies, 8-5.

"We were due," said Fox, whose dad won a pair of national titles at Saint Mary's, was a four-time all-Canadian, and was drafted by the Detroit Pistons and Portland Trailblazers.

Fox watched the Axemen shock the country last season by upsetting the Ravens, and he's excited about the possibility of leading them back to that territory.

"Next year, it's going to be just as exciting," Fox said.

"This team can do big things for years to come."



Saint Mary's guard Joey Haywood, right, battles Acadia forward Joseph Nwabuzor during the first half of last night's game at the Tower. Acadia won 87-80.

X-Men lose

• The Cape Breton Capers dealt the Atlantic University Sport-leading St. Francis Xavier X-Men just their second loss of the basketball season last night in Sydney. Despite a huge 38-point effort from Halifax native Christian Upshaw, the Capers prevailed 90-86 with the help of 39 points from third-year guard Phillip Nkrumah. Halifax guard Tyler Richards chipped in 21 points in a losing cause for the X-Men, who fell to 10-2. The win tightens the race for first, as the second-place Capers (9-3) have pulled to within four points of the X-Men.

In women's play last night, the Acadia Axewomen edged the Saint Mary's Huskies 61-60 at The Tower, despite 18 points from Hayley Fox. Cape Breton beat St. F.X. 64-66.

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Rainmen look to Silverhorn for golden touch

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Brian Silverhorn's return to the Halifax Rainmen lineup from a knee injury couldn't come soon enough.

The Rainmen have gone ice-cold from long range in his absence, with the Premier Basketball League's second-worst three-

point percentage (.330). Not only that, but they've jacked up far more shots than anybody else in the PBL.

Silverhorn was 9-of-15 from beyond the arc before spraining his medial collateral ligament and missing five games. He shot .394 from three-point range in 26 games last season.

"I want to continue

"I think something would be wrong with me if I didn't want to beat those teams."

Brian Silverhorn

shooting the ball like I was before my injury," Silverhorn said. "I'll take the shots given to me, but

(shooting) is what I like to do. Hopefully I can come right in there, shoot the ball well, and get our percentages back up."

The Shelbyville, Ky., native said he hasn't been doing as much practice shooting as he would like, and said his toughest challenge will be finding his "game rhythm."

The Rainmen (5-3) face the Manchester Millrats

(5-2) tonight at 7 p.m. at the Metro Centre in a battle for first in the Atlantic Conference.

They also play on the road Saturday against the Vermont Frost Heaves and Sunday against the Millrats on a weekend with heavy playoff implications.

Since the Rainmen became a franchise in November 2007, they have never beaten the Millrats or the Frost Heaves, despite 14 attempts. The 6-foot-6 Silverhorn is the only player on the active roster who was around at the start of last season and he's dying to get revenge on his New England rivals.

"I think something would be wrong with me if I didn't want to beat those teams," Silverhorn said. "We owe 'em."

For the first time with the Rainmen, Silverhorn won't have his best friend, Eric Crookshank, on the court with him.

Both were inaugural



Brian Silverhorn has missed the last five games.

members of the Rainmen, but the high-flying Crookshank was suspended for the season earlier this month for "conduct detrimental to the team."

"He's like a brother to me," Silverhorn said. "Hopefully, in the future, in another league or another season, I don't know, we will be able to be out there again together."

Rainmen clean house, say sayonara to SirValiant

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

Visit our sports section at metronews.ca throughout the day for the latest on possible Rainmen signings.

When Andre Levingston signed SirValiant Brown, he touted him as an "assassin at the guard position."

Seven games into the Premier Basketball League season and the 6-foot-1 guard was averaging 7.1 points per game.

So Levingston, the owner of the Halifax Rainmen, released the former NCAA Division 1 star yesterday.

"We only have 20 games in this league and we don't have time to wait for him to get it together," Levingston said.

"We need to try and get better, and we need to get better fast because we feel we can compete for a championship."

"We weren't getting the production from his position and we needed to change some things."

Brown, who finished second in NCAA scoring in 1999-2000 at George Washington, was sixth on the

team in minutes, averaging 23 per game. He was 19-of-49 from the floor and his field goal percentage (.387) was worst on the team.

"In college, SirValiant took a lot of shots and scored a lot of points," Levingston said. "But at the professional level, he needs to learn to be more efficient. He can score 15 to 20 points and not have to take 15 to 20 shots."

"It was just coming too slow."

The Rainmen have not yet signed a replacement for Brown, but Levingston said he is "talking to some players" now. He wants to land a scoring guard to complement Jimmy Twyman, Kevin Hammack and Zachary Ramey.

It's possible the Rainmen will have a replacement signed for tonight's 7 p.m. home tilt with the Manchester Millrats, although Levingston wasn't making any promises.



SirValiant Brown

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Metro Homes

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Rent out the cottage

Cottage Life has launched a new website called Cottageliferentals.com and it boasts a directory of hundreds of cottage listings giving renters an opportunity to search for waterfront properties across Canada.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

See the pattern?

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescape

Using patterns adds excitement and movement to a decor scheme. Let's face it, solid colours on their own are kind of dull. Using one pattern with solids is a little more interesting. But a series of effectively matched patterns can truly change an ordinary room into one that is spectacular.

But combining patterns can be tricky — it's always a bit of a balancing act. The bottom line when it comes to using several patterns together is to avoid overwhelming with colour, scale, or line.

First of all, use small doses of pattern rather than splashing them across large surfaces like walls, or carpeting or flooring. Instead, think in terms of

"Using patterns adds excitement and movement to a decor scheme. Let's face it, solid colours on their own are kind of dull."

toss cushions or cushion covers, throws, lampshades and smaller rugs. Or using a boldly patterned wallpaper on one focal wall, rather than on all four of them.

People often choose a "quieter" or less dramatic pattern or a solid for large pieces of upholstered furniture, like a large sofa, for example. A more dramatic print can be a perfect choice for a smaller armchair, for example. It will be a focal point, a "punch" of pattern in your room, but it will not overwhelm.

Patterns come in several different categories, such as florals, botanical patterns such as leaves, vines or trees, stripes, checks or plaids, and abstract patterns of various styles. Also popular nowadays are the reinterpreted "new" traditional patterns, such as fleur-de-lis, toile, or harlequin.

In terms of style, botanical patterns tend to work well in a space with a lot of emphasis on natural elements, like stone, wood and subdued earth tones. Other types of patterns such as florals, stripes or checks can be very flexible depending on the type of rendering it receives, working well in both traditional and contemporary settings. What is important is mixing the patterns effectively, and that means you must carefully consider scale and colour as well as style.

When you combine patterns, one simple rule is to use patterns with different sizes or scales. For example, a small pattern such as a little check will work well with a large floral pattern. Or a large striped pattern will work with a medium-sized floral pattern. Do



To combine bold patterns successfully, keep to a palette of no more than three colours and use various sizes of patterns. This example uses only black-and-white to pull together Colada wallpaper by Umbra/Graham & Brown, grahamandbrown.com.

not use several pieces with similarly-sized patterns — larger patterns will compete and smaller patterns will turn to mush.

In terms of colour, stay within a three-colour palette for your main colours. That means your walls, upholstered furniture and drapery should relate to each other. The main colours in the patterns should repeat in the other patterns, although they may each contain differently-coloured ac-

cents. Use fabric swatches to check your combinations.

When you think you've got it, congratulations! But keep looking out for the reaction of visitors. If they appear to get dizzy or disoriented when they enter your house, you may have to reconsider your patterns combinations and adjust the mix.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show *Arresting Design*; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.



Here, left, a graphic wallpaper and dramatic cushion are pulled together by rose motifs. But remember, if you're decorating with patterns, not to mix and match too many different patterns together (as seen in the picture on the right).



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Food

Canadian supplier Trudeau introduces the Garlic Duo, a dual function tool that effectively crushes or slices garlic cloves.

Metro News Services

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The Garlic Duo has a five-year warranty and is dishwasher-safe. It comes in blue, green or red and has a suggested retail price of \$24.99. Visit trudeau.ca for more.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Liquid Assets

Peter Rockwell



liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Down south

While I've gone to a lot of far out

places to wet my whistle the furthest so far has got to be South Africa.

With a layover in London my trip last fall to the Western Cape took over thirty hours, but it was worth it to get some lips-on perspective as to what's hot and happening in its unique wine regions. Both the shiraz and sauvignon blanc grapes have surpassed old school pinotage in popularity and cool mega blends of umpteen varietals are filling the glasses of those hip to what's cutting edge.

Take **KWV's 2006 Roodeberg Red (\$12.95 - \$15.99)**. Though the brand is no spring chicken (it recently celebrated its 50th vintage) its rustic, big-fruited marriage of earth, smoke, spice and chocolate has influenced a whole new wave of ingenious South African blends like **Fairview Cellars' 2006 Goats do Roam Red (\$12.95 - \$15.99)**.

The Goat's shiraz-led mix of six grapes shows off some nice juicy red berry fruit capped-off by a light candied finish that reminded me a bit of cherry Nibs.

While fresh springbok may be tough to find at your neighbourhood grocery; local game and grilled meats make a nice pairing for both wines.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.



Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

Fill up a super bowl with a chili champ

À la carte

Barb Holland



Metro Food Writer

If you'd rather be in front of the TV watching the big game than in the kitchen, here's a hearty beef chili that makes good use of your slow cooker for a hassle-free supper. The flavour improves overnight, so if time permits, consider making it a day or two ahead and reheat in slow cooker. Serve with lots of crusty bread and cold beer.

Chipotles are dried smoked jalapeno peppers in a spicy tomato vinegar sauce (adobo sauce). They add a wonderfully rich, smoky flavour. Purée the entire can, including sauce, until smooth. You won't need the entire can, so freeze the remaining in a resealable bag or freezer container for another use, such as my Cranberry Chipotle Glazed Meatballs at metronews.ca/alacarte (Nov. 27, 2008). For another game plan for super bowl supper, try Pulled Pork (Oct. 23, 2008).

Hearty Beef Chili

If you have a large crowd and a large slow cooker, double the recipe. If you like kidney beans in chili, add a can of drained beans during the last hour. Makes 6 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 lb (1 kg) stewing beef
- 1-2 tbsp (15 to 30 ml) vegetable oil
- 2 onions, chopped
- 1 red or green pepper, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) chili powder
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) each salt and pepper
- 19 oz (540 ml) can stewed or diced tomatoes
- 1-2 tbsp (15 to 30 ml) puréed chipotle peppers



The flavour improves overnight, so if time permits, consider making it a day or two ahead and reheat in slow cooker. Serve with lots of crusty bread and cold beer.

The flavour improves overnight, so if time permits, consider making it a day or two ahead and reheat in slow cooker.

in adobe sauce or 1 tsp (5 ml) hot pepper flakes

- 19 oz (540 ml) can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed (optional)

METHOD:

Trim any fat off meat and cut into chunks, if necessary. In a large skillet, heat

NFL Super Bowl XLIII

1 tbsp (15 mL) oil over medium-high heat. Brown meat in batches and transfer to slow cooker.

Add a little more oil to skillet and sauté onion, pepper and garlic until lightly softened, about 5 minutes. Stir in flour, chili powder, cumin, salt and pepper. Add tomatoes and puréed chipotle peppers, bring to a simmer. Pour sauce over beef in slow cooker. Stir well, cover and cook on low for 8 to 10

hours or until meat is tender. If adding beans, add one hour before end of cooking.

Tip: For stove-top preparation: Prepare as above, increasing the liquid to cover the meat in a large Dutch oven or saucepan (beef broth, more tomatoes or beer). Bring to a simmer, reduce heat and cook, covered for 1-1/2 to 2 hours or until meat is tender. Stir occasionally. Add beans for last 20 minutes.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

new toy

Pocket Cocktails is available for iPhone and iPod Touch.

That a bartender in your pocket?

TECHNOLOGY Pocket Cocktails, a new iPhone application, offers a fun twist to the traditional cocktail hour.

Pocket Cocktails is the newest application of its kind: Unlike other bartending and cocktail applications that are mostly text-based, Pocket Cocktails uses large, high resolution pictures. It also has a fun "shaker" feature that selects cocktails at random. This random mode lets iPhone users shake the phone to get a random drink image, recipe and ingredient list all from an e-bartender.

While serving up the drink, the iPhone spits out a colorful collection of shaker noises and catchy phrases adding a fun spin on the experience.

Pocket Cocktails is available for 99 cents at Apple's iPhone application store, iTunes or at pocketcocktails.com. Visit pocketcocktails.com for a video overview.

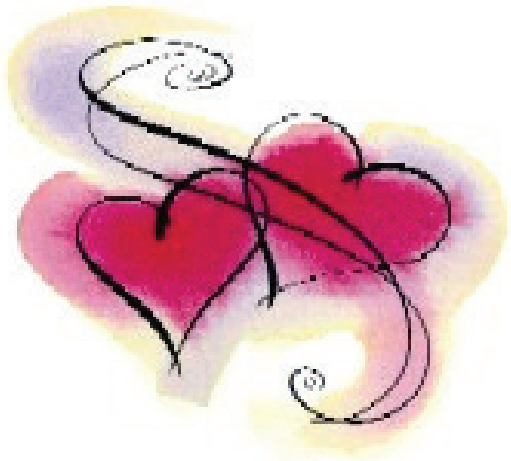
METRO NEWS SERVICES

In brief

HUMANE CUISINE Humane Society International (HSI) is bringing its campaign against shark finning to the Chinese New Year celebrations in many major cities this week. Every year, tens of millions of sharks are hunted to meet the demand for shark fin soup. Shark fins are often removed when the animals are still alive and the sharks are then thrown back into the water to die.

SOURCE: HSI

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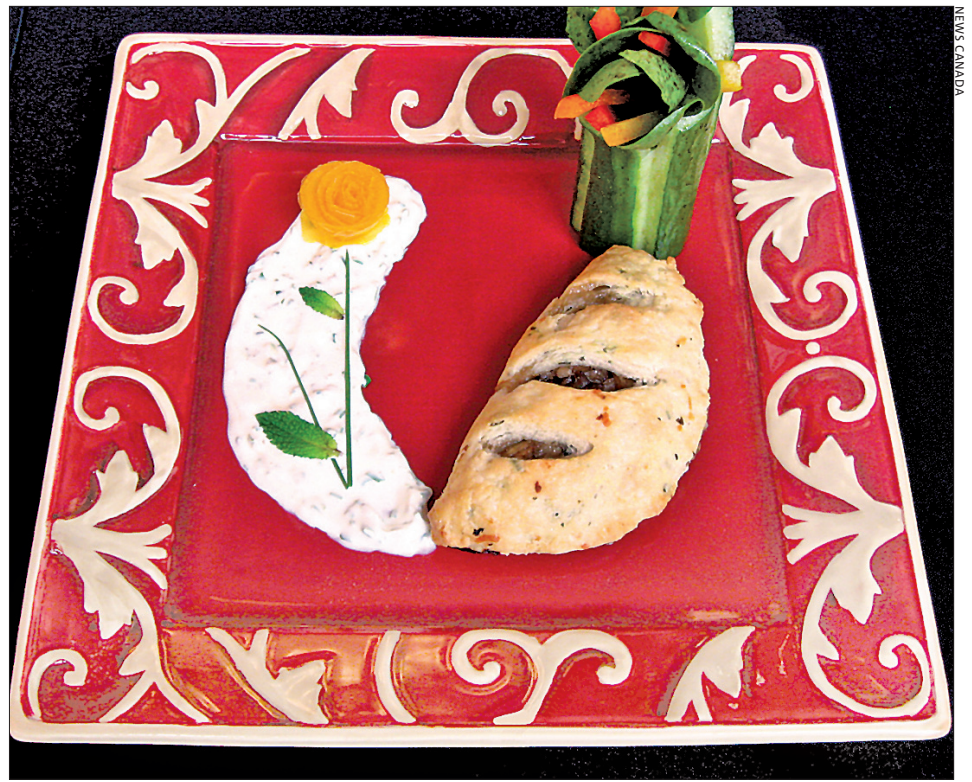
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Make room for mushrooms

This mushroom-bursting pastry is the perfect dish for families on the go. The five varieties of mushrooms burst right out of this pastry with flavour. So easy to make, even the kids can make the dough while you get everything else ready.

This was Cambrian College's winning entry into the "Make it with Mushrooms" Student Chef Challenge 2008. For more delicious recipe ideas visit Mushrooms Canada at mushrooms.ca.

Forest Mushroom Turnovers with Sour Cream and Chive Sauce

Serve this flaky mushroom pastry with chicken and vegetables for a complete dinner meal, or serve it with your favourite side salad for a lighter vegetarian dinner or lunch. Makes 18 turnovers or six main course servings.

INGREDIENTS:

Pastry:

- 1 pkg (250 g) light cream cheese, cut in cubes
- 1/2 lb (250 g) butter, cut in cubes
- 1 1/2 (375 ml) cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) Each dried basil, oregano and thyme
- pinch of black pepper or to taste

Filling:

- 2 tbsp (25 ml) butter
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) diced onion
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 5 oz. (150 g) portabella

- mushrooms, chopped
- 5 oz. (150 g) shiitake mushrooms, chopped
- 5 oz. (150 g) crimini mushrooms, chopped
- 5 oz. (150 g) oyster mushrooms, chopped
- 5 oz. (150 g) white button mushrooms, chopped
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 tsp (2 ml) Each dried thyme and tarragon
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) grated Asiago or Parmesan cheese
- Black pepper to taste
- 1 cup (250 ml) low fat sour cream
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) minced chives

METHOD:

For the pastry:

In a food processor or mixer (or by hand) mix all of the ingredients together until the butter is well incorporated and dough forms a ball.

Roll into a ball, gently flatten into a disk shape and wrap in plastic wrap.

Refrigerate for 30-40 minutes.

For the filling:

Put the butter and oil in a large skillet and melt over medium high heat.

Add the onions and cook until soft.

Add the garlic and cook 1 more minute.

Add the portabella mushrooms and cook until tender.

Add the remaining mushrooms and cook 5-7 minutes or until mushrooms release their juices.

Add the balsamic vinegar, pepper, thyme and tar-

ragon.

Cook for approximately 2-3 minutes until the mushrooms absorb the vinegar.

Taste and add more seasoning if desired.

Pour into a stainless steel bowl and cool completely; stir in grated cheese.

To prepare the turnovers:

Preheat oven to 400° F (200 °C).

Line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.

Roll out the pastry to approximately 1/8" (3 mm) thick on a lightly floured surface.

Use whatever you would like to cut out 4-inch (10 cm) circles from the dough (you will need to re-roll the scraps to get 18 rounds).

Place 2 tbsp (25 mL) of the mushroom mixture in the center.

Fold the dough over in a half moon shape. Pinch the edges firmly and press with tines of fork to seal.

Place on baking sheet; cut 3 small slits on top of each one.

Bake 15-17 minutes or until golden brown on the bottom; cool slightly.

Serve with sour cream mixed with chives and salt and pepper to taste.

Tips: Substitute 3/4 tsp (3 mL) fresh minced herbs for 1/4 tsp (1 mL) dried herbs. Substitute 1 1/2 lb (750 g) mixed mushrooms (about 8 cups/2 L chopped) for the mushrooms above.

NEWS CANADA

Armani, Dolce & Gabbana in a tiff over trousers

Italy's top designers are squabbling over a pair of padded trousers, with Giorgio Armani accusing Dolce & Gabbana of copying him and the duo in turn saying the doyen of fashion has nothing to teach them. **REUTERS**

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Style



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METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Luxury shoes shine

Metallics, snakeskin prints and earth hues adorn '09 shoes

JENNIFER YANG
for Metro Canada

Boom or bust, women's shoes have a knack for staying well-heeled, even in the most recessionary of times.

This spring is no exception and for anyone wondering where all the wealth has gone, look no further than a shoe-lover's feet.

"Women love shoes and it's that one item that's an attainable luxury," says Canadian designer David Dixon. "What's that saying? 'When the going gets tough, they go shoe shopping?'"

Thankfully, designers aren't subscribing to the recessionary mood and this spring, they're trotting out shoes in luxe, lustrous and bejeweled. In Dixon's own line, there's no shortage of rhinestone-studded straps, rich hues and earth tones paired with brushed metallics.

"There is a fantasy to it,

and I think it is a part of the escapism," he says.

While metallics are still popular, one of the biggest materials for 2009 is of the serpentine variety and city dwellers better get used to seeing snake on the pavement.

"Natural snake, black and white snake, metallic snakes... it's a very rich-looking shoe," explains Julia Brownstein, senior buyer for Browns. "When you do a metallic snake, right away it looks very rich and expensive and it's something you can wear day and night."

With April showers also come lace and flowers, and feet are getting romanced with satin, bows and lacy adornments. As for colours, cobalt and navys are cropping up alongside purples, greens and oranges, as is the classic nude shoe.

"With the economy and the way things are going right now, the type of purchase that will be strong this summer is something neutral that would go with a lot of things," says Brownstein.

But perhaps the biggest shoe of spring is last year's winner, the gladiator, both in sandal and stiletto. Having fought its way into a second round on the runways, the Greco-Roman shoe has re-emerged a bit more refined.

"It really started last year with the basic up-the-leg traditional gladiator, but now a lot of designers are doing it on a platform," says Richard Markowitz, buyer for Davids. "Through the gladiator shoe, you're also getting a more strappy look and the birdcage look."

Brown snakeskin leather sandals, Feet First, \$89.99 (In stores May).



Faux leather Sweetheart Mary Jane Pump, Payless, \$60.



Heels have undergone some interesting treatments this spring, like tapered points or creative detailing, but heights are nowhere as lofty as last year.

"That has to do in part

with the economy," Markowitz says. "People want something a little more fashionable, something they can wear a couple of times and not just once."



Michael Kors metallic sandal, Browns, \$178.

Mixed metallic gladiator sandal, Gap, \$49.50.



GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt



Read Kenya, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle and check out her blog at kenyastyle.com

Style File

Kim Elbo



kim.elbo@gmail.com

ask kim

The rubber tip of my heel has worn off and now I can see the screw! These are my favourite shoes and I know they are no longer available, what do I do?

Don't throw them out; they're salvageable! Take them to the nearest cobbler and get the tip replaced. If you walk on pavement, buy a heel protector, it's basically a rubber or plastic cap that goes on over your heel. You can purchase heel protectors at dance shops or online at amazon.com.

E-mail your style questions to kim.elbo@gmail.com.

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

Try a weave this spring



Flat Weave
Designer: Aldo
Shop: Aldo
Address: Various Locations
aldoshoes.com

Gladiator Weave
Designer: Michael Kors
Shop: Michael Kors
michaelkors.com

Basket Weave
Designer: Paul Smith
Shop: Gravity Pope
gravitypope.com



Bracelet
Designer: All the Rage
Shop: loulou luv
loulouluv.com



Ring
Designer: Sansyo
Shop: U Life Store
ulifestore.com



Necklace
Designer: Aldo
Shop: Aldo
Address: Various Locations
aldoshoes.com

The weave shoe trend

Last month I got to see this amazing Bata shoe exhibit in Edmonton and I could not stop thinking about this one French straw-weave platform shoe from the 1940s that was featured. The shoe led me on a mission to find a great weave shoe, and lo and behold there's great selection of leather and straw weave shoes out there. First off, if you're going to buy a high-heeled shoe this spring, look for a platform; they're not only very popular for the season but they help with height and stability. Make sure the weave is made out of leather, it's much more durable than synthetic fabrics and it's better to spend money on something that will last.

accessory

The Valentine's tote by Roxy, \$32, is the perfect bag to conceal your V-day gifts from your beau. Available at West49, west49.com.



Fashion Jewelry

I'm definitely feeling this Moroccan-inspired trend I've been seeing on the runways and in stores for spring. The look can be achieved with over-layered necklaces, bright beads toned down with patina metals and delicate wire filigree. Some of the colours to look out for are burnt orange, deep red and turquoise. Moroccan-inspired jewels are beautifully eccentric in design so show them off properly and proudly with simple clothing pieces like block colour caftans or linen white shirts or pants.



Need to cover up for a special occasion? Try Kat Von D's new Tattoo Concealer, \$30. It comes in three shades to fit every skin tone and is the perfect formula to hide any tattoo. Available exclusively at Sephora, 1-877-SEPHORA. **METRO NEWS SERVICE**

Classic footwear rocks

Men's shoes go preppy and casual this spring

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada



This spring, men may not need to look beyond the back of their closet to find the latest trends in shoes.

Classics rock for the fashionable-footed man, with a new wave of '80s greats seeing a return across the footwear field.

Ron White, creator and CEO of Toronto, Ont.'s Ron White Shoes, says retro-influenced '80s products are presently designers' top sellers, pressing major brands to follow in their footsteps.

"It's being adopted by baby boomers because they lived through it and they have a lot of positive thoughts and memories because the '80s was a good time," he says. "If you're in your 20s, you don't remember the '80s, so it's also fresh for the younger crowd."

The classic preppy theme presented itself sparingly last season but White says it will be prominent among this season's styles. "When you think of the look of Nautica, Ralph Lauren and Lacoste, those are classic preppy looks," he says. "It's one of the hottest styles for men's footwear. What that translates into for shoes are penny loafers."

Similar to penny loafers are leather boat shoes, which Michael

Pilling, Aldo's public relations coordinator, marks as a new spring casual trend. "Casual is key this season," he says. "Look for relaxed shoes that can be worn for any occasion, with any clothing."

Skater shoes like Chuck Taylors and Vans fit that bill, according to White. "You can be the skater dude at a park and wear it, but you could also put it on with a really cool sweater from Lacoste or Polo and go to the country club." He says the winning skater feature is vulcanized construction, described as a half-inch of white rubber that wraps around the shoe, making the sole appear white.

But White says fashion must progress, referencing the variations on the skater theme designed by Alexander McQueen for Puma as examples to follow. "When you see these shoes, but done in a fresh way, it will give someone a reason to buy."

One reason to buy a slim, pointy-toed leather dress shoe is because Pilling says it, added to a skater and preppy shoe, will be the splash of dress to set your closet for the summer. "Do not be afraid of it! It is one of the must haves this season and will last for many more to come," he says. "The three pieces can be mixed for work and play — both dress and casual."

"If you're in your 20s, you don't remember the '80s, so (this shoe trend is) ... fresh for the younger crowd."

Ron White, designer

The Sophisticate



Updated tapered toe shoe, Ron White, above: \$495.

Tapered toe, Ron White, \$565.

The Skater

Skater-style, vulcanized canvas shoe, Aldo, \$50.



Yellow converse, Browns, \$80.

The Recreational



Blue leather boat shoe, Aldo, \$100.



Black leather penny loafer, \$119.99, Feet First.



Left: Footwear goes casual classic for spring. Seen here on a model is the GEOX Monet, \$180. They feature GEOX's breathable sole. Call 1-866-454 GEOX or visit geox.com to find a retailer nearest you.

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Do it daily.

In a new genealogical documentary series, stars including Sarah Jessica Parker, Lisa Kudrow and Susan Sarandon will find out just whom they are related to. The actresses will appear in NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA



Juno gig

CTV has announced that Sarah McLachlan is the first artist slated to perform live on the Juno Awards broadcast on March 29.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Franz returns with Tonight

Franz Ferdinand

Album: Tonight
Label: Domino/Sony
Rating: ●●●●●

NO MATTER HOW badly fans want their favourite groups to remain consis-



MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

tent, there comes a time when even the most successful acts need to change things up. On Franz Ferdinand's third disc the band takes that leap to the next level, throwing club beats and electronica sounds in

with their familiar disco-rock style. Though some fans might not make it through the nearly eight minute Lucid Dreams, the new Franz is definitely improved. Fortunately the band hasn't messed with their formula too much — No You Girls is one of the best dance rock tunes in their oeuvre.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada



Scottish band Franz Ferdinand throw club beats and electronica sounds in with their familiar disco-rock style on the group's latest album *Tonight*, which was released yesterday.

Hoobastank

Album: For(N)ever
Label: Island/Universal
Rating: ●

AT LAST, A band that truly is as bad as its name.

Hoobastank had a trea- cly hit called *The Reason* a few years back that was played a few million times too many. We should not forgive those who for some unexplainable reason supported the band back then. It is because of them that Hoobastank was allowed to record two more albums with massive big label backing. Those wretched Hoobastank fans should be locked into a dark room and forced to listen to this sorry excuse for rock 'n' roll until their emo forelocks turn gray and their skinny jeans throttle their thighs. We know who you are. We're coming to get you.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Nickel Eye

Album: The Time Of The Assassins
Label: Rykodisc
Rating: ●●½

THE DOWN TIME be-

tween Strokes records affords an opportunity for bassist Nikolai Fraiture to try his hand at a solo project. The stripped-down acoustic folk-rock a la Dylan and Neil Young complements his lyrical explorations as a travel-happy dropout. But like those wandering years, Fraiture has

yet to find his footing. And his monotone, nasal vocals (think Lou Reed meets Leonard Cohen) and oft-repetitive arrangements often drag to the point of grating. Ian Nathanson/for Metro Canada

Joanna Chapman-Smith

Album: Contraries
Label: Woundup Records
Rating: ●●●●

ACCORDIONS

CAN BE brandished as sonic weapons, sitting heavy and poised for raucous, foot-stomping mayhem. Not so for Joanna Chapman-Smith. Jazzy, soulful vocals dominate Chapman-Smith's "Canadian ethnic folk" — a mellow collection of folksy tunes that also features clarinet, piano, stand-up bass, scattered percussion flourishes, whistling and even an a capella duet (Body Language). Autobiographical stories like *Carnival Song* and *Between the Mind* shine over Chapman-Smith's sparse arrangements and restrained instrumentation. The resulting album plays more like a summertime porch lullaby than a gypsy punk party.

Rob McMahon/for Metro Canada

In-Flight Safety

Album: We Are An Empire, My Dear
Label: This Is Night/Outside
Rating: ●●●●½

THERE ARE

too many Cold-play and U2 wannabes in Britain without adding to the list from Canada. Un-

fortunately, In-Flight Safety forces the comparison to the British rock giants on *Big White Elephant*, the showcase tune on this album. We could probably excuse the anthemic keyboards and rhythm piercing guitars, but John Mullane's reaching vocals are just too close to Chris Martin's doe-like meows. Fortunately, it's not all like that. The band hits the mark on the very next track, *Model Homes*, and there are flashes of East Coast indie brilliance throughout.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Pat Green

Album: What I'm For
Label: Sony
Rating: ●●●●

PAT GREEN

WAS best as an outsider from Texas knocking on Nashville's doors, respected by the star-making machinery but never fully accepted. Oh, but the yearnings of stardom are strong. Especially when fellow men-without-cowboy-hats like Keith Urban and Dierks Bentley are hitting it big playing guitar heavy country rock. With *What I'm For*, Green takes a stab at stardom, conceding just enough to the mainstream 'new country' to guarantee airplay. At times, it may be a tad too much though. On the opening track, *Footsteps Of Our Fathers*, Green sings "let's rip a page out of the Hank Williams' hymnal." Hopefully, Green isn't closing the book on Hank.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Listen to this week's reviewed music by following links at metronews.ca/music

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Vampire actor plays painter

Twilight star Robert Pattinson can't always play a vampire heartthrob. In his next movie, Little Ashes, set in 1922 and described by Variety as an "arty Bohemian romp," the actor plays Salvador Dalí as a young man. PEOPLE.COM



Oprah, glamour and the misery

IntelleVision



FAT LIKE ME: Like NASCAR, Heroes and MTV "reality" shows like The Hills and The City, Oprah Winfrey is more interesting to write about than actually watch. This would explain the massive essay on Oprah's latest crisis of self-image published this week in the New York Post.

At 2,173 words — the equivalent of a John Dos Passos novel in the cramped spaces of a modern tabloid newspaper — it sums up the cycle of binge and purge, both physical and emotional, throughout Oprah's career, and its centrality to the phenomenon of what writer Maureen Callahan quite accurately calls "America's most prominent secular spiritual leader," albeit one who, earlier this month, aired a confessional episode of her daytime talk show expressing her mortification that she'd ballooned back to over 200 pounds.

Callahan interprets Oprah's crisis as a metaphor for America's economic crisis — "A nation that spends more money than it has may face a depression, much in the way that a person who consumes more calories than she expends might, too," she writes — but this sociological party trick is getting a little tired by now.

Callahan wonders aloud whether Oprah's success comes more from moulding the culture to reflect herself or from being the quickest to react to its nascent trends. And while there's nothing trailblazing about being an overweight American, there are few people who can enlist a support group as influential — or unusual — as Oprah's.

Jennifer Harris, the author of The Oprah Phenomenon, wonders that she's "always said that you can't depend on others for your happiness, not letting others define you ... Meanwhile she's surrounded by all these people telling her she needs to control her authentic self, as if it's an unruly child." Callahan goes on to describe "the soldiers in Oprah's army of self-help: Dr. Phil McGraw, overweight author of diet

books and unlicensed TV therapist; Eckhart Tolle, who speaks of the 'pain body' and charges \$40-\$150 a pop for lecture tickets ... and Marianne Williamson, who had as a mentor a spirit named 'Seth,' channeled via a psychic."

The good news is that, if you're moved to explore this further, a book has recently been published — Oprah Winfrey And The Glamour Of Misery, by "Oprah scholar" Eva Illouz — and that hatchet-job biographer Kitty Kelley has a book on Oprah coming out next year, which promises to bring the sordid big time.

Like a baseball stats book, these books are products of an ancillary industry that makes actually consuming a game or a show entirely beside the point.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television.

Most memorable halftimes

IAN NATHANSON for Metro Canada

It's as old — and often as overhyped and controversial — as the Super Bowl itself.

Yet what millions upon millions view as that entertaining diversion between the NFL championship's second and third quarters took years to find its stride.

Since the game's 1967 inception, the likes of American college marching bands, drill teams, incarnations of motivational singing troupe Up With People and the odd vocal act (Chubby Checker, Carol Channing) typically filled a 15-minute average time slot.

By the 1990s, a directional change and barking orders to "go big-name" led to bringing in more established acts from country music, R&B, pop and rock.

The Super Bowl halftime show also affords a great excuse to go overboard on stage presentation and excessive stars-and-stripes patriotism. So it might not surprise anyone if this



Janet Jackson, left, and Justin Timberlake set off a firestorm of complaints after the so-called "wardrobe malfunction."

year's halftime act, Bruce Springsteen and the E-Street Band, happens to dole out a rendition of Born in the U.S.A. to get the crowd at Tampa, Fla.'s Raymond James Stadium all fired up.

Top Super Bowl halftime highlights:

- **5. Michael Jackson, Super Bowl XXVIII, 1993:** The King of Pop singing Heal the World accompanied by a choir of 3,500 Los Angeles-area children.
- **4. Aerosmith, 'N Sync,**

Britney Spears, Mary J. Blige, Nelly, Super Bowl XXV, 2001: A bridging of two generations: Veteran rockers Aerosmith get down with superstar popsters 'N Sync and Britney getting their chance to warble the rapid-fire lyrics of the mid-'70s classic, Walk This Way.

• **3. U2, Super Bowl XXVI, 2002:** Bono's typical front-man showmanship wasn't the star of this performance. Instead, a banner that scrolled the names of



the 3,000 men and women who died during the 9/11 attacks just months before was enough to tug at the collective heartstrings.

• **2. Prince, Super Bowl XII, 2007:** Even with a controversial silhouette of a revealing pose, His Royal Purple-ness let loose a top-notch 12-minute set of his classics all capped by a rain-soaked Purple Rain complete with blistering guitar solos.

• **1. Jessica Simpson, Nelly, P. Diddy, Kid Rock, Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake, Super Bowl XXXVIII, 2004:** A.k.a. Nipplegate. Those final few seconds of J.T. opening a piece of Janet's clothing to reveal a star-shaped shield over her right nipple was enough to set off a firestorm of complaints, a \$500,000 US fine to CBS and worldwide talk of the so-called "wardrobe malfunction." All of this placed the Super Bowl under the FCC's watchful eye, prompting a switch to safer, family-approved rock acts.

critics'corner

Hell's Kitchen
Sharp-tongued chef Gordon Ramsay slices and dices another batch of contestants in a new season of the restaurant reality series. All the competitors love to cook, but the one who wins a chance to run his or her own eatery will be the one who can stand being repeatedly raked over the coals by the inimitable Ramsay. They don't call this show "Hell's Kitchen" for nothing. 10 PM on FOX



The Nature of Things
They still make 'em like they used to — but that may change. In the new episode "Supercar: the Automobiles of the Future," viewers meet the engineers and designers who are working on motor vehicles for a changing world. More people, climate change and the politics of oil are all factors dictating an overhaul of the car culture. 8 PM on CBC

Doc Zone
Now this is a cold war. The new documentary "Battle for the Arctic" details the competition between Canada and Russia for the rights to the resources of the world's northernmost territory. With rich reserves of oil and gas, the stakes are high. Russia has planted a flag on the ocean floor, a symbolic gesture, while Canada is going with a real one: a military base in Resolute Bay. 9 PM on CBC

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
1/29/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Ugly Betty (HDTV)	Grey's Anatomy		Practice
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	Eleventh Hour "Eternal"		Practice
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Doc Zone (HDTV) (N)	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Terre humaine	Pyramide (SC)	Virginie (SC)	Infoman (SC)	Enquête (HDTV) (SC)	M pour musique (HDTV) (SC)		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Eleventh Hour
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Le Petit Monde de Laura Cad		Juste pour rire (SC)	Taxi 0-22 (SC)	Caméra café	TVA 22 heures
	6	6	6	CHFH	Entertainment	ET Canada	The Unit		Bones "Fire in the Ice"	The Office	The Office	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	ER "Heal Thyself"		American Idol (HDTV) (N)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		News (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	(6) EastLink Television				Podium TV	EastLink Television		
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol (HDTV) (N)	Hell's Kitchen (N)		Fox First
primetime	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim	30 Rock	(11:01) ER
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	The Hour Jimmy Carter.		CBC News: The National	Doc Zone
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Greater Boston	Basic Black		Chasing Churchill: In Search	Chasing Churchill: In Search		Chasing
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus		This Old Hse.	Yankee Shop	Ask This Old Michigan	Human Face
	68	68	68	TQS	(6:30) Le Retour (SC)		Grande fille	Un monde bête	Les Griffes de la forêt (2007, Suspense)	Tyler Hoechlin.		110 pour cent
	23	96	96	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Commodities	GetConnected	Business News	Squeeze Play	Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live	Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF	(5) PGA Tour Golf FBR Open -- First Round.			Golf Central	PGA Tour Golf FBR Open -- First Round.			
	52	52	52	RSE	Prime Time Sports		Heads-Up Poker Champ.		World Combat	UFC Primetime	Best Damn Sports Show	Sportsnet Con.
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	Score on NFL	Cabby Unlimit	NBA Basketball	Cleveland Cavaliers at Orlando Magic. (Live)		
news	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips		NASCAR Pre.	Pass Time (N)	Pinks -- All Out			Wrecked
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at Florida Panthers. (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre	
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Misadventures	Futurama
	26	26	26	TREE	Max & Ruby	Backyardigans	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Toot & Puddle	Franklin	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol
	16	16	16	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 Cabdriver.		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)	The Beast (N)
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Suaangan	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	renegadeexpress	True Heart ** (1997, Adventure)	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top	10 countdown. (Live)			Baldwin Hills	Baldwin Hills	Two Can Play That Game * (2001)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Camera	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		Eighteen (2004, Drama)	Brendan Fletcher.
sports	25	25	25	CMT	Taylor Swift	Trace Adkins	Top 20 Steamiest Video		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Hope & Faith
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Corner Gas		The Simpsons	South Park
	153	153	153	COURT	Truth, Duty, Valour		World's Wildest Police Videos		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Aggro Crooked cops.	Police Videos
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Apocalypse How	End of the world.		MythBusters
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY
	46	46	46	HIST	Deep Wreck Mysteries		NCIS		Lost Worlds Atlantis.		Deep Wreck Mysteries	NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Gone Wild	Brooke Knows	Pimp My Ride	America's Best Dance Crew		America's Best Dance Crew		Punk'd
	19	19	19	MMM	MusicProfile	mmmtop10.com		Back In	Storytellers Kid Rock. (N)		Celebrity Wrestling	Confessions
	201	201	201	M1	(6:20) Crossing (2005)		(8:15) Mama's Boy (2007, Comedy)	Jon Heder.		Walker Payne (2006, Drama)	Jason Patric.	
	48	23	23	OLN	American Gladiators		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker	Bounty Hunter
family	51	51	51	PEACH	Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Panic Room
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:30) Giant *** (1956, Drama)	Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson, James Dean.					Platoon *** (1986, War)	
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct	RDI en direct	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death	Trailer Park	Trailer Park
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted		Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	10 Pounds	Biggest Loser
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1		Rabbit Fall	Rabbit Fall	Lost "Walkabout"		Star Trek: Voyager	Ghost Hunters
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: NY (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		TNA IMPACT! (HDTV) (N)	
	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paparazzi Paparazzi.	Tonight Show
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Motorcycle Mania		Overhaulin' (HDTV)		Saw for Hire	Arms Exploded
	56	34	34	TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	Make or Break	Naked Fashion	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family Guy
cable variety	20	20	20	TV5	Que.-champion	Journal de Fr2	Fourchette et sac à dos		Club social		Envoyé spécial	
	28	28	28	V	Mysterious Island		Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!	Conrack *** (1974, Docudrama)	
	60	97	97	VIVA	Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy		Most Haunted		Most Haunted	Passion
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Divine Design
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Power" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)	WGN News



After getting pregnant, Alyson Hannigan says she quit being vegan. "I basically went from being a vegan to ... now it's meat and cheese — and ginger ale," she told usmagazine.com. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Abdul pulls another diva act on Idol

PEOPLE Paula Abdul's wacky antics returned on Tuesday's American Idol episode, usmagazine.com reports.

Miffed because the other three judges didn't ask her what she thought of 19-year-old contestant Julissa Veloz, Abdul walked out of an audition in Jacksonville, Fla.

Simon Cowell and new judge Kara DioGuardi had just offered their critiques when Abdul interrupted, "OK, I guess my opinion doesn't matter. It's so funny because there's four judges ... sometimes we forget there's a fourth opinion in this room." She then walked off.

The contestant then followed Abdul and begged her to come back out. After some prodding, Abdul returned and voted Yes on sending Julissa to Hollywood.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jolie still friendly with ex hubby

RELATIONSHIP Angelina Jolie certainly seems to have mastered the stay-friends-with-your-ex technique, in-touchweekly.com reports. Her second husband Billy Bob Thornton recently said that he'd love to work with his ex-wife again. "I'd like to do another movie with Angie, too, one of these days."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

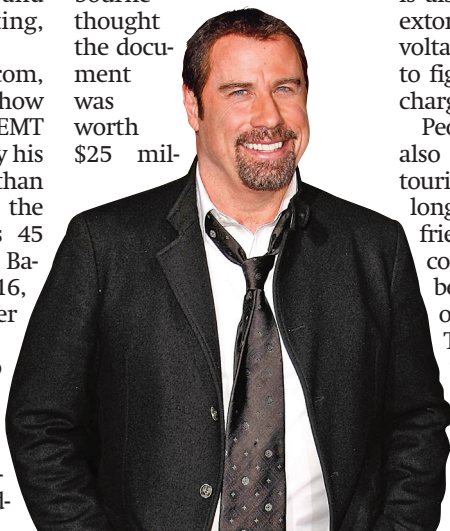
Paper key in Travolta extortion case: Reports

DOCUMENT The item at the centre of the John Travolta extortion case: A "refusal to transport" document, RadarOnline.com and TMZ.com are reporting, people.com reports.

According to TMZ.com, the document detailed how "John Travolta told EMT workers he wanted to fly his son to Florida rather than drive by ambulance to the hospital ... which was 45 minutes away" in the Bahamas, where Jett, 16, died of a seizure disorder Jan. 2.

Paramedic Tarino Lightbourne was charged Monday with conspiracy to commit extortion and attempted extortion for alleged-

ly demanding \$25 million US to keep the document private. (As TMZ points out, it is unclear why Lightbourne thought the document was worth \$25 mil-



lion, as it was irrelevant to Jett's death.)

Former Bahamian senator Pleasant Bridgewater, who is also accused of trying to extort money from the Travolta family, said she plans to fight "untrue and unfair charges" against her.

People.com reports police also had detained former tourism minister — and longtime Travolta family friend — Obie Wilchcombe, but he "has not been charged," Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest told usmagazine.com. "He was not arrested; he was questioned on Friday."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Phoenix's rap act a hoax?

PEOPLE Joaquin Phoenix told the world he's quitting acting. Then he took to the stage in Vegas on Jan. 16 to debut his new career as a rapper. But people.com is wondering if it is all an elaborate hoax.

That's what Entertainment Weekly is also reporting. Sources tell the magazine's Hollywood Insider blog that Phoenix's bizarre career change, which Casey Affleck (who's married to Phoenix's sister Summer) has been filming, is a joke

at the expense of the entertainment media and actors who take themselves too seriously.

"He said, 'It's a put-on. I'm going to pretend to have a meltdown and change careers, and Casey is going to film it,'" says one source who recently worked with

Phoenix.

Like Andy Kaufman before him — or maybe even Sacha Baron Cohen — Phoenix isn't expected to break character anytime soon, EW reports: "It's an art project for him," says a source. "He's going full out. He probably has told his reps that he's quit acting. Joaquin is very smart."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Mom scared when Miley goes driving

PEOPLE Miley Cyrus' mother is a "nervous wreck" when her daughter drives, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hannah Montana star recently passed her driving test, but admits her mom Leticia Finley is still scared to get in a vehicle if she is behind the wheel.

She said: "I'm a good driver but I make my mum a nervous wreck, which makes me nervous."

The 16-year-old star insists she can handle her car and is determined not to let her mother's anxiety get to her.

She said: "I

love driving, and I'm pretty good at it — I really am!"

Cyrus drives a Porsche, but it was recently reported she hates being seen in the luxury motor as it used to belong to her mom. Explaining she would have preferred a brand new model,

Miley said: "I do have a car. I took my mom's old car. I didn't get the one I wanted, but I got the old car which wasn't so bad because it was a Porsche. I suppose it was a pretty good hand-me-down."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Macca landed in 'dark place' after divorce

PEOPLE Paul McCartney has revealed his bitter divorce from Heather Mills took him to a "dark place," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Beatles singer — whose divorce from Heather was finalized last year — has described the pain he suffered during the split. The 66-year-old musician gave an honest account of the separation, saying: "I've been through a dark place."

Paul — who has

been dating U.S. heiress Nancy Shevell, 49, since November 2007 — explained his latest album Electronic Arguments, recorded as part of duo The Fireman, was heavily influenced by his failed marriage.

He said: "Love and light is mentioned a lot on the album. Parts of it are dark and edgy. It could be because I've been through a dark place."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Prince Harry lost love to distance, time

BREAKUP After five years of dating, what caused Prince Harry and girlfriend Chelsy Davy to finally call it quits last week? Those close to the prince believe time and distance may have pulled the 24-year-old royal and the Zimbabwean-born

beauty apart, People magazine reports in its upcoming issue, on sale Friday.

Chelsy, 23, is set to graduate from Leeds University this spring and is homesick for Africa, while Harry seems more committed than ever to army life.

When they split was announced, a royal source told People the pair felt their relationship "had run its course."

Still, the news came as a shock to some of Harry's friends. "I don't see this as long-term," a friend says.

Another pal, however, be-

lieves it's for real. "It came right out of the blue," he tells People. "But I don't think if he was madly in love with her, he would have knocked it on the head. I think it is a case of, 'Let's call it a day; we had some fun.'"

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19			20	21				
			22					23				
24	25	26			27	28	29				30	31
32					33					34		
35			36	37					38			
		39					40	41				
42	43				44		45			46	47	48
49					50	51			52			
53					54				55			
56					57				58			

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	3	7				5	6	
			3		2			
9	2			7			4	1
		1	9		7	6		
5								9
		2	1		5	4		
8	7			2			3	6
			6		1			
	1	6				8	9	

1 Weaponry
5 “Roscoe”
8 Iolani Palace locale
12 Ayatollah’s predecessor
13 Reproductive cells
14 Obnoxiously proper one
15 Gilpin of “Frasier”
16 Aviv lead-in
17 “— never work”
18 Jaundiced
20 Creepy —
22 Lennon’s lady
23 Judge Lance
24 “That hurts!”
27 Administered
32 Dos Passos trilogy
33 “I told you so!”

1 Venomous vipers
2 Comic Caroline
3 Crumbly deposit
4 1862 battle site
5 Declined
6 “Hail, Caesar!”
7 Body powder
8 Narcotic
9 Museum pieces
10 Mound
11 Unattractive
19 Performing
21 Disencumber
24 “— Gang”
25 Work with
26 Gotham City villain

34 Mauna —
35 Uncommunicative
38 Requests
39 Court
40 Knock ('em) dead
42 Disagreeing
45 Cantankerous
49 Big rig
50 Spring mo.
52 Hip bones
53 Tehran's country
54 Snitch
55 Void partner
56 Trig function
57 Blond shade
58 Mirth

A	F	A	R		S	O	B		A	R	E	A
L	O	G	E		P	A	L		T	O	R	N
M	O	U	S	S	A	K	A		L	U	S	T
S	T	E	A	K				B	L	A	S	T
			L	I	A	R		A	S	S		
B	A	B	E		Q	U	A	D		E	B	B
E	R			F	U	S	S	Y		A	I	L
E	M	U			E	A	S	T		C	U	L
		S	A	M		E	A	C	H			
P	A	S	T	A	S			B	A	T	H	S
O	R	E	O		P	R	U	S		S	I	A
K	I	R	L	N		P	O	U	S	E	T	U
E	A	S	E		T	E	N			D	O	L

7	6	4	2	1	5	3	8	9
5	3	1	4	9	8	2	7	6
8	9	2	7	6	3	5	1	4
3	4	7	9	8	6	1	2	5
2	8	5	1	7	4	9	6	3
9	1	6	5	3	2	7	4	8
1	7	3	6	4	9	8	5	2
4	5	8	3	2	1	6	9	7
6	2	9	8	5	7	4	3	1

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 min	Smart
Under 13 min	21-25 min	Genius
13-17 min	25+ min	Not bad
		Scholar
		Keep practising

AVATAR VENUS

MARCH 21-APRIL 20  Take directions when changing your plans. Don't deal with other people's garbage. Something will be said that causes extreme disapproval.



APRIL 21-MAY 21 (8)
A fiery debate makes you feel frisky. You'll get a thrill when reading someone's mind. Being with a compassionate person will be soothing.



SEPT 23-OCT 23  Co-operate with a weirdo after a warning speech. An anxious person will make a leap of faith. You are no longer responsible for a sticky situation.



OCT 24-NOV 22 One of your friends will finally get some work done. An alcoholic's secrecy will disturb a loved one. Remarkable news will lead to grief.



MAY 22-JUNE 21  Be the hero of a surprising story. Getting involved in an injustice will give you problems. A stranger will be too funny for words.



NOV 23-DEC 21 

A new love is magnificent. Talking with a freeloader gives you problems. Someone is listening carefully to everything you say.



JUNE 22-JULY 22 A down-to-earth approach will work out well. A gloomy dilemma benefits you. A thrilling predicament creates a diversion.



DEC 22-JAN 20
A sweetheart's cruelty is driven by creativity. Lift friendship to a new plane by sticking to the facts. A painful suggestion causes resistance.



JULY 23-AUG 23
A man has to change tactics. A scandalous deed looks like more fun than it is. Avoid further contact with an unrequited lover.



JAN 21-FEB 18 You'll be tough to beat in an argument. A smart person is interesting, but inhibiting. Somebody you love will get baffling news.



AUG 24-SEPT 22
A smiling man's erratic behaviour makes you lose focus. A suspicion is wrong because of misinformation. A traumatized person finds a way to escape.



FEB 19-MARCH 20  Fate looks kindly upon you. A disagreement results from a strange encounter. Someone's tedious rituals will displease you.

[illegible]

JAN. 29, 1845: The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe is published in the New York Evening Mirror.

JAN. 29, 1891: Liliuokalani is proclaimed Queen of Hawaii, its last monarch.

JAN. 29, 1978: Sweden outlaws aerosol sprays due to their harmful effect on the ozone layer, becoming the first nation to enact such a ban.

JAN. 29, 2005: The first direct commercial flights from mainland China to Taiwan since 1949 arrived in Taipei. Shortly afterwards, a China Airlines carrier landed in Beijing.

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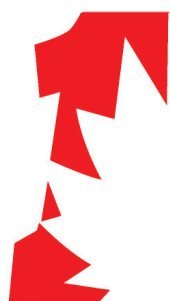
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